

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
SPECIAL REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

June 9, 1999
MAG Office - Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Neil Giuliano, Tempe, Chairman	Councilmember Dennis Kavanaugh for Mayor
Mayor Thomas Morales, Avondale	Wayne Brown, Mesa
* Mayor Dusty Hull, Buckeye	Mayor Edward Lowry, Paradise Valley
* Mayor Edward Morgan, Carefree	* Mayor Skip Rimsza, Phoenix
* Mayor Vincent Francia, Cave Creek	Mayor John Keegan, Peoria
Councilmember Boyd Dunn for Mayor Jay	Vice Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr for Mayor
Tibshraeny, Chandler	Mark Schnepf, Queen Creek
Mayor Cel Arias, El Mirage	* President Ivan Makil, Salt River Pima-Maricopa
* Mayor Sharon Morgan, Fountain Hills	Indian Community
* Mayor Chuck Turner, Gila Bend	Councilmember Richard Thomas for Mayor
* Governor Mary Thomas, Gila River Indian	Sam Campana, Scottsdale
Community	Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise
Councilmember Les Presmyk for Mayor Cynthia	Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
Dunham, Gilbert	* Mayor Dallas Gant, Wickenburg
Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale	Councilmember Eugene Russell for Mayor
Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear	Donald J. Needham, Youngtown
* Mayor Frances Osuna, Guadalupe	F. Rockne Arnett, ADOT
* Mayor Colin Barleycorn, Litchfield Park	Bill Beyer, Citizens Transportation
* Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County	Oversight Committee

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Regional Council was called to order by Chairman Neil Giuliano at 5:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Giuliano thanked everyone for attending tonight's special meeting of the Regional Council.

Chairman Giuliano announced the Regional Council has a new member, Mayor Vincent Francia from Cave Creek. He commented that Mayor Francia would receive his membership certificate at a later meeting.

Chairman Giuliano introduced proxies: Councilmember Boyd Dunn for Mayor Jay Tibshraeny from Chandler, Councilmember Les Presmyk for Mayor Cynthia Dunham from Gilbert, Councilmember Dennis Kavanaugh for Mayor Wayne Brown from Mesa, Vice Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr for Mayor

Mark Schnepf from Queen Creek, Councilmember Richard Thomas for Mayor Sam Campana from Scottsdale, and Councilmember Eugene Russell for Mayor Donald Needham from Youngtown.

Chairman Giuliano announced that parking validation is available from MAG staff. He said that the RPTA has generously agreed to provide transit tickets for individuals who use the bus to get to the Regional Council meeting. He stated that tickets are available following the meeting from Ken Driggs of the RPTA.

3. Call to the Audience

Chairman Giuliano noted that we have a timer to assist the public with their presentations, which have a three minute time limit. When two minutes have elapsed, the yellow light will come on notifying the speaker that they have one minute to sum up. He said that at the end of the three minute time period, the red light will come on. Members of the audience who wish to speak fill out a card and give it to the MAG staff who will bring it to the Chairman.

Chairman Giuliano stated that public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for non-agenda items and for consent items. After hearing public comments, any member of the committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. [Chairman Giuliano stated that there are no consent items on tonight's agenda.](#)

He indicated that for the action items on the agenda, public comment will be taken when the item is heard. Public comments are limited to three minutes.

Chairman Giuliano recognized public comment from Blue Crowley, who expressed thanks to Roc Arnett for making him a part of the process. He stated that he could not comment on agenda items not designated for action and that it is important for the public to speak out. Mr. Crowley mentioned he is trying to increase participation in Phoenix Councilmember Peggy Bilsten's survey and suggested a link from the MAG website. Chairman Giuliano thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

4. Executive Director's Report

James M. Bourey stated that a presentation on Canamex and Growing Smarter will be given at the next Governor's Transportation Vision 21 Task Force meeting on June 10, 1999. Mr. Bourey mentioned that MAG has been asked by the Governor's office to host a Task Force meeting. This meeting would also involve PAG and would inform the Task Force about MAG's transportation planning process and future needs of our region. Mr. Bourey said attendance by the Mayors would be encouraged at this lunch meeting. Mr. Bourey stated that the next Task Force community meeting is scheduled for July 13, 1999 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Chandler.

Mr. Bourey said he will attend a meeting of the Census Advisory Committee June 17 and 18, 1999 in Washington, DC. He remarked that the Committee has been rechartered and ICMA has requested he continue to serve as their representative. Mayor Kirk from Dallas has been named as the new Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Bourey asked for input from members on issues and concerns they might have on Census 2000.

Mr. Bourey stated that the second Y2K Forum was held at MAG on June 4, 1999. The Forum focused on utilities. Mr. Bourey informed members that the next Forum is scheduled for June 29, 1999 and will focus on communications.

Mr. Bourey stated that the Annual Desert Peaks Awards dinner will be held June 23, 1999 at the Phoenix Airport Marriott. Mr. Bourey indicated that the program will be in a more concise format this year. Mr. Bourey passed out a report of the finalists for the awards.

Mr. Bourey stated that the Valley Vision 2025 draft framework was presented to the full Committee at their recent meeting. He said that the nine thematic subcommittees will refine the framework and present a draft plan in approximately one month. Mr. Bourey said that expanded involvement of business leaders will be facilitated by a meeting with Greater Phoenix Leadership scheduled for June 21, 1999. Mr. Bourey said that the draft vision document is scheduled for completion by July 28, 1999. Public input will be received on the draft and a final report would be complete by the end of the year.

Mr. Bourey introduced Carol Asplund, MAG's new transportation planning modeler. Ms. Asplund, who holds a Master of Science degree, comes from Massachusetts, where she worked with two regional planning commissions. Chairman Giuliano thanked Mr. Bourey for his report and asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Joan Shafer expressed concern over the amount of money invested for long-term, not immediate, results. Mr. Bourey replied that the vision is vital to our region's long term future. Mr. Bourey indicated that Valley Vision will be a valuable document to guide our future. He stated that the budget has been reduced significantly from the original \$1.6 million. Mr. Bourey stated that comparable regions have spent considerably more. He noted that the City of Atlanta spent more than \$2 million for their vision.

Chairman Giuliano stated that agenda items #5A, #5B, and #5C would be considered together.

5A. FY 1999 MAG Final Phase Input Opportunity Report

Dawn Coomer stated that, in September 1993, the Regional Council adopted a public involvement process for receiving public comment on transportation planning and programming in accord with federal guidelines. The public involvement process is divided into four phases, early input, mid-phase, final phase and continuous involvement. In July 1998, the Regional Council gave direction for a more proactive public outreach process. Ms. Coomer stated that this year, more than 400 people provided input during the early phase opportunity. This early input was incorporated into the development of early guidelines for project selection for the TIP and LRTP. The LRTP and the TIP were accepted by the Regional Council in April 1999 for the purpose of conducting a conformity analysis. She indicated that, beginning on April 30, 1999, the draft LRTP, TIP, Conformity Analysis and Supplemental Conformity Analysis for the Current Approved 1998 Conformity Finding were made available for 30-day review. Ms. Coomer stated that the final phase meeting was held on June 1, 1999, with an open house and public hearing. Ms. Coomer summarized the public comments received at the public hearing. She indicated that the Management Committee recommended acceptance at their June 9, 1999 meeting. Chairman Giuliano thanked Ms. Coomer for her presentation and asked if there were any questions.

Chairman Giuliano recognized public comment from Blue Crowley, who commented on the conformity of the TIP and LRTP. He stated that of the five major employers in the state, three are represented on the Regional Council: Maricopa County, the State of Arizona, and the City of Phoenix. He urged participation by these agencies in the trip reduction program. Mr. Crowley commented on establishing another COG in Maricopa County and increasing transit service to outlying communities in the region. Chairman Giuliano thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

5B. Approval of the Draft FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

5C. Approval of the Draft MAG Long Range Transportation Plan 1999 Update

Terry Johnson presented these two agenda items together. Mr. Johnson stated that the MAG Regional Council approved the Draft FY 2000-2004 MAG TIP and LRTP 1999 Update in April 1999 for the purpose of conducting a conformity analysis. Mr. Johnson stated that each year, MAG develops a Transportation Improvement Program that lists all required transportation related projects in the MAG Region for up to the next five years. Mr. Johnson displayed pie charts showing the types of projects included in the TIP and their funding sources. Mr. Johnson stated that the LRTP addresses all modes of transportation in the region. He summarized highlights of the 1999 update of the LRTP. Mr. Johnson displayed maps of the accelerated freeway plan, the regional highway system, the transit plan, the express bus service plan, and the light rail service plan. Mr. Johnson stated that the Management Committee recommended approval of these two agenda items at their June 9, 1999 meeting.

Mayor Colin Barleycorn asked for clarification of the inclusion of widening of the Superstition Freeway to accommodate additional general purpose lanes. Mr. Johnson stated that the widening project in the plan is in Mesa, not Tempe. Mr. Johnson stated that any changes to the plan would invalidate the conformity analysis, but could be done in the next cycle. Mayor Barleycorn requested that this project be brought back for discussion. Chairman Giuliano asked Mr. Johnson to ensure that the issue would be discussed during the process for next year's plan.

Mayor Shafer moved to accept agenda item #6A, FY 1999 Final Phase Input Public Opportunity Report, approve agenda item #6B, FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program, contingent upon a finding of conformity of the TIP with the applicable state and federal air quality implementation plans, and approve agenda item #6C, MAG Long Range Transportation Plan 1999 Update, contingent upon a finding of conformity of the LRTP with the applicable state and federal air quality implementation plans. Councilmember Kavanaugh seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Chairman Giuliano stated that although he voted in favor of the motion, he wanted to go on the record that Tempe retains their opposition to the HOV lanes. Mayor Thomas Morales of Avondale and Mayor Colin Barleycorn of Litchfield Park also requested that they go on the record as opposing the HOV lanes.

6. Finding of Conformity for the Draft FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and the Long Range Transportation Plan 1999 Update and Approval of the Supplemental Conformity Analysis for the Current Approved 1998 Conformity Finding

Lindy Bauer stated that on April 28, 1999, the Regional Council authorized a conformity analysis to be prepared for the draft FY 2000-2004 MAG TIP and the MAG LRTP. The findings indicated that the TIP and LRTP meet the federal conformity requirements. Ms. Bauer indicated that approval of

the conformity findings by the Regional Council is required for MAG adoption of the TIP and Long Range Transportation Plan. She said that a Supplemental Conformity Analysis for the Current Approved 1998 Conformity Finding was also prepared. This additional analysis was requested by the Federal Highway Administration, following a March 2, 1999 U.S. Court of Appeals ruling. The Supplemental Conformity Analysis reaffirmed the 1998 Conformity Finding for the FY 1999-2003 MAG TIP and Long Range Transportation Plan Summary and 1997 Update with 1998 Addendum. On June 1, 1999, a public hearing was conducted and comments were considered by the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee at their meeting on June 3, 1999. The Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee then recommended approval of these conformity items. The Management Committee concurred with these recommendations at their meeting on June 9, 1999. Ms. Bauer displayed bar charts of the test results for carbon monoxide, ozone and particulate matter. She summarized the findings and stated that we passed all of the tests. Ms. Bauer indicated that the Management Committee recommended approval. Chairman Giuliano thanked Ms. Bauer for her report and asked if there were any questions.

Chairman Giuliano recognized public comment from Blue Crowley, who said the plans failed the test for conforming to federal regulations and submitted copies of federal regulations for the record. He commented on federal funds being used by a TMA in a nonattainment area for SOV lanes, public action and citizen involvement, and funding sources for light rail.

Chairman Giuliano asked Mr. Bourey if federal regulations had been adhered to. Mr. Bourey reassured the Regional Council that all federal regulations had been followed.

Mayor Shafer moved, Bill Beyer seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the Finding of Conformity for the draft FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program and MAG Long Range Transportation Plan 1999 Update and to approve the Supplemental Conformity Analysis for the Current Approved 1998 Conformity Finding.

Chairman Giuliano stated that he would be unable to attend the next Regional Council meeting. However, he would be attending the Desert Peaks Awards via a prepared videotape.

Chairman Giuliano announced that a progressive dinner in Suite 300 upstairs would be held for the members of the Regional Council and their staff who have confirmed their dinner reservations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary